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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4753rd meeting of the Security Council, held on 13 May 2003, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The Role of the Security Council in the Pacific Settlement of Disputes", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Council guided by the Purposes and Principles of the United Nations Charter, reaffirms its commitment to maintain international peace and security through effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace.

"The Security Council recognizes that the United Nations and its organs can play an important role in preventing disputes from arising between parties, in preventing existing disputes from escalating into conflicts, and in containing and resolving the conflicts when they occur. The Security Council recalls, in this regard, the successes of the United Nations in these areas.

"The Security Council recalls that the Charter of the United Nations, particularly Chapter VI, sets forth means and a framework for the pacific settlement of disputes.

"The Security Council underscores that the efforts to strengthen the process of the peaceful settlement of disputes should be continued and made more effective.

"The Security Council reiterates its commitment to make a wider and effective use of the procedures and means enshrined in the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the pacific settlement of disputes, particularly Articles 33-38 (Chapter VI), as one of the essential components of its work to promote and maintain international peace and security.

"The Security Council decides to continue to keep this item under review."

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